



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 24, 2006.

Christine Sherwood
Christine Sherwood

Applicant : Wilfried Matthis, et al. Confirmation No. 2568
Application No. : 10/726,177
Filed : December 1, 2003
Title : ELEMENT HAVING A SHAFT AND A HOLDING ELEMENT
CONNECTED THEREWITH FOR CONNECTING WITH A ROD

Grp./Div. : 3733
Examiner : Annette R. Reimers

Docket No. : 56524/B884

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH FEE
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c) AND 1.17(p)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
April 24, 2006

Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§ 609 and 707.05(b), enclosed is FORM PTO/SB/08A/B listing the references that are known to applicant. A copy of the listed partial English translation of DE 199 12 364 A1 is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing for this application. Applicant also requests that an initialed copy of FORM PTO/SB/08A/B be entered in the application file and returned to applicant with the next communication from the Office in accordance with MPEP § 609.

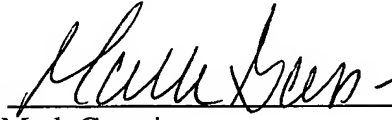
Enclosed is the processing fee of \$180 as required by 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required by this paper to

Application No. 10/726,177

Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any Deposit Account transaction. **A copy of this paper is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
Mark Garscia
Reg. No. 31,953
626/795-9900

MEG/cks

Enclosures: Check \$180

Copy of IDS

Form PTO/SB/08A/B,

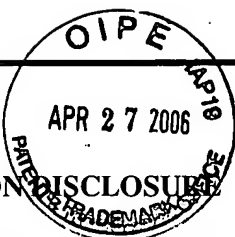
w/copy of partial English translation of DE 199 12 364 A1

CKS PAS677878.1-*04/24/06 9:48 AM

FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)



| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Attorney Docket Number | 56524/B884 |
| Application Number | 10/726,177 |
| Filing Date | December 1, 2003 |
| Applicant(s) | Wilfried Matthis, et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 3733 |
| Examiner Name | Annette R. Reimers |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS | Cite No. ¹ | DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known) | PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY | NAME OF PATENTEE |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | 5,443,467 | 08-22-1995 | Biedermann et al. |
| | | US 2002/0138076 A1 | 09-26-2002 | Biedermann et al. |
| | | US 2003/0125741 A1 | 07-03-2003 | Biedermann et al. |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If Known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | T ⁶ (✓) |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | | DE 199 12 364 A1 (Previously Provided) | 10/12/2000 | Brehm | Partial translation |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

CKS PAS677907.1.*-04/24/06 3:22 PM

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| EXAMINER SIGNATURE | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached. | |

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE